

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus capable of being connected to a plurality of external apparatuses and performing image formations based on data sent from the external apparatuses, said image forming apparatus comprising:

a plurality of paper ejection trays for receiving sheets on which images are formed; and

notification means for notifying a user of a specific one of the paper ejection trays in which a last ejected sheet is present, wherein the notification means comprises:

a plurality of notifying units respectively disposed on the paper ejection trays or in the vicinity of the paper ejection trays; and

a controller, connected with the notifying units, for controlling the notifying units including controlling a respective notification unit to communicate an indication notifying the user that the last ejected sheet is present in the corresponding paper ejection tray.

8. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein each of said notifying units is a display unit.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Withdrawn) An image forming system capable of being connected to a plurality of external apparatuses and performing image formations based on data sent from the external apparatuses, said image forming - system comprising:

a plurality of image forming apparatus, each having a plurality of paper ejection trays for receiving sheets on which images are formed;

a control unit for, when a respective image forming apparatus receives an ejection instruction from one of the external apparatuses and the number of sheets required to execute said ejection instruction exceeds a capacity of an available one of said paper ejection trays of said respective image forming unit, ejecting a part of sheets to said available one of said paper ejection trays of said respective image forming unit and continuously ejecting the remaining sheets to another available one of said paper ejection trays of said respective image forming unit, and when said respective image forming apparatus receives said ejection instruction from one of the external apparatuses and the number of sheets required to execute said ejection instruction exceeds the capacity of available paper ejection trays of said respective image forming unit, ejecting a part of sheets to the available paper ejection trays of said respective image forming unit and continuously ejecting the remaining sheets to available paper ejection trays of another of one of the plurality of image forming units; and

notifying means for notifying a user of the paper ejection trays in the respective image forming units where the part of sheets and the remaining sheets are present, wherein said notifying means includes a plurality of display units respectively provided in correspondence with each paper ejection tray.